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The AMERICAN CRISIS.

NUMBER III.

By the author of *COMMON SENSE.*

(Continued from our laſt.)

THE principal arguments in ſupport of independence may be comprehended under the four following heads.

FIRST,—The natural right of the continent to independence.

SECONDLY,—Her intereſt in being independent.

THIRDLY,—The neceſſity.—And

FOURTHLY,—The moral advantages ariſing therefrom.

I. THE NATURAL RIGHT of the continent to independence, is a point which never yet was called in queſtion. It will not even admit a debate. To deny ſuch a right, would be a kind of atheiſm againſt nature: and the beſt anſwer to ſuch an objection would be, "*The fool hath ſaid in his heart, There is no God.*"

II. THE INTEREST of the continent in being independent is a point as clearly right as the former. America, by her own internal induſtry, and unknown to all the powers of Europe, was at the beginning of the diſpute, arrived at a pitch of greatneſs, trade and population, beyond which it was the intereſt of Britain not to ſuffer her to paſs, leſt ſhe ſhould grow too powerful to be kept ſubordinate. She began to view this country with the ſame uneaſy malicious eye with which a covetous guardian would view his ward whoſe eſtate he had been enriching himſelf by for twenty years, and ſaw him juſt arriving at manhood. And America owes no more to Britain for her preſent maturity, than the ward would do to his guardian for being twenty-one years of age. That America hath flouriſhed *at the time* ſhe was under the government of Britain, is true; but there is every natural reaſon to believe, that had ſhe been an independent country from the firſt ſettlement thereof, uncontrouled by any foreign power, free to make her own laws, regulate and encourage her own commerce, ſhe had by this time been of much greater worth than now. The caſe is ſimply this, The firſt ſettlers in the different colonies were left to ſhift for themſelves, unnoticed and unſupported by any European government; but as the tyranny and perſecution of the old world daily drove numbers to the new, and, as by the favour of Heaven on their induſtry and perſeverance, they grew into importance, ſo, in like degree, they became an object of profit to the greedy eyes of Europe. It was impoſſible, in this ſtate of infancy, however thriving and promiſing, that they could reſiſt the power of any armed invader that ſhould ſeek to bring them under his authority. In this ſituation Britain thought it worth her while to claim them, and the continent received and acknowledged the claimer. It was, in reality, of no very great importance who was her maſter, ſeeing, that from the force and ambition of the different powers of Europe ſhe muſt, till ſhe acquired ſtrength enough to aſſert her own right, acknowledge ſome one. As well, perhaps, Britain, as another; and it might have been as well to have been under the States of Holland as any. The ſame hopes of engroſſing and profiting by her trade, by not oppreſſing it too much, would have operated alike with any maſter, and produced to the colonies the ſame effects. The clamour of protection, likewiſe, was all a farce; becauſe, in order to make *that* protection neceſſary, ſhe muſt firſt, by her own quarrels, create us enemies. Hard terms, indeed!

To know whether it be the intereſt of the continent to be independent, we need only aſk this eaſy, ſimple queſtion: Is it the intereſt of a man to be a boy all his life? The anſwer to one will be the anſwer to both. America hath been one continued ſcene of legiſlative contention from the firſt king's repreſentative to the laſt; and this was unavoidably founded in the natural oppoſition of intereſt between the old country and the new. A governor ſent from England, or receiving his authority therefrom, ought never to have been conſidered in any other light than that of a genteel commiſſioned ſpy, whoſe private buſineſs was information, and his public buſineſs a kind of civilized oppreſſion. In the firſt of theſe characters he was to watch the tempers, ſentiments and diſpoſition of the people, the growth of trade, and the increaſe of private fortunes; and in the latter to ſuppreſs all ſuch acts of the aſſemblies, however beneficial to the people, which did not directly or indirectly throw ſome increaſe of power or profit into the hands of thoſe who ſent him.

America, till now, could never be called a *free country*, becauſe her legiſlation depended on the will of a man three thouſand miles diſtant, whoſe intereſt was in oppoſition to ours, and who, by a ſingle "NO," could forbid what law he pleaſed.

The freedom of trade likewiſe is, to a trading country, an article of ſuch vaſt importance, that the principal ſource of wealth depends upon it; and it is impoſſible that any country can flouriſh, as it otherwiſe might do, whoſe commerce is engroſſed, cramped and fettered by the laws and mandates of another—yet theſe evils, and more than I can here enumerate, the continent has ſuffered by being under the government of Great-Britain. By an independence we clear the whole at once—put an end to the buſineſs of unanſwered petitions and fruitleſs remonſtrances—exchange Britain for Europe—ſhake hands with the world—live at peace with mankind—and trade to any market where we can beſt buy and ſell.

III. THE NECESSITY, likewiſe, of being independent, even before it was declared, became ſo evident and important, that the continent ran the riſk of being ruined every day ſhe delayed it. There were reaſons to believe that Britain would endeavour to make a European matter of it, and rather than loſe the whole, would diſmember it like Poland, and diſpoſe of her ſeveral claims to the higheſt bidder. Genoa, failing in her attempts to reduce Corſica, made a ſale of it to the French, and ſuch traffics have been common in the old world. We had at that time no ambaſſador in any part of Europe, to counteract her negotiations, and by that means ſhe had the range of every foreign court uncontradicted on our part. We even knew nothing of the treaty for the Heſſians till it was concluded, and the troops ready to embark. Had we been independent before, we had probably prevented her obtaining them. We had no credit abroad, becauſe of our rebellious dependency. Our ſhips could claim no protection in foreign ports, becauſe we afforded them no juſtifiable reaſon for granting it to us. The calling ourſelves ſubjects, and at the ſame time fighting againſt the power we acknowledged, was a dangerous precedent to all Europe. If the grievances juſtified our taking up arms, they juſtified our ſeparation; if they did not juſtify our ſeparation, neither could they juſtify our taking up arms. All Europe was intereſted in reducing us as rebels, and all Europe (or the greateſt part at leaſt) is intereſted in ſupporting us as independent ſtates. At home our condition was ſtill worſe: Our currency had no foundation, and the fall of it would have ruined whig and tory alike. We had no other law than a kind of moderated paſſion; no other civil power than an honeſt mob; and no other protection than the temporary attachment of one man to another. Had independence been delayed a few months longer, this continent would have been plunged into irrecoverable confuſion: ſome violent for it, ſome againſt it, till in the general cabal the rich would have been ruined and the poor deſtroyed. It is to independence that every tory owes the preſent ſafety he lives in; for by *that*, and *that only*, we emerged from a ſtate of dangerous ſuſpenſe, and became a regular people.

The neceſſity likewiſe of being independent, had there been no rupture between Britain and America, would in a little time have brought one on. The increaſing importance of commerce, the weight and perplexity of legiſlation, and the entangled ſtate of European politics, would daily have ſhewn to the continent the impoſſibility of continuing ſubordinate; for, after the cooleſt reflections on the matter, *this muſt* be allowed, that Britain was too jealous of America, to govern it juſtly; too ignorant of it, too govern it well; and too diſtant from it, to govern it at all.

IV. But, what weigh moſt with all men of ſerious reflection are the MORAL ADVANTAGES ariſing from independence: War and deſolation are become the trades of the old world; and America neither could nor can be under the government of Britain without becoming a ſharer of her guilt, and a partner in all the diſmal commerce of death. The ſpirit of duelling, extended on a national ſcale, is a proper character for European wars. They have ſeldom any other motive than pride, or any other object than fame. The conquerors and the conquered are generally ruined alike, and the chief difference at laſt is, that the one marches home with his honours, and the other without them. 'Tis the natural temper of the Engliſh to fight for a feather, if they ſuppoſe *that feather* to be an affront; and America, without the right of aſking why, muſt have abetted in every quarrel, and abided by its fate. It is a ſhocking ſituation to live in, that one country muſt be brought into all the wars of another, whether the meaſure be right or wrong, or whether ſhe will or not: Yet this, in the fulleſt extent, was, and ever would be, the unavoidable conſequence of the connexion. Surely! the quakers forgot their own principles, when in their late teſtimony they called *this connexion*, with theſe military and miſerable appendages hanging to it, "*The happy conſtitution.*"

Britain, for centuries paſt, have been nearly fifty years out of every hundred at war with ſome power or other. It certainly ought to be a conſcientious as well as political conſideration with America, not to dip her hands in the bloody work of Europe. Our ſituation affords us a retreat from their cabals, and the preſent happy union of the ſtates bids fair for extirpating the future uſe of arms from one quarter of the world; yet ſuch have been the irreligious politics of the preſent leaders of the quakers, that, for the ſake of they ſcarce know what, they would cut off every hope of ſuch a bleſſing by tying this continent to Britain, like Hector to the chariot-wheel of Achilles, to be dragged through all the miſeries of endleſs European wars.

The connexion, viewed from this ground, is diſtreſſing to every man who has the feelings of humanity. By having Britain for our maſter, we became enemies to the greateſt part of Europe, and they to us; and the conſequence was war inevitable. By being our own maſters, independent of any foreign one, we have Europe for our friends, and the proſpect of an endleſs peace among ourſelves. Thoſe who were advocates for the Britiſh government over theſe colonies, were obliged to limit both their arguments and their ideas to the period of a European peace only: The moment Britain became plunged in war, every ſuppoſed convenience to us vaniſhed away, and all we could hope for was *not to be ruined*. Could this be a deſirable condition for a young country to be in?

Had the French purſued their fortune immediately after the defeat of Braddock laſt war, this city and province had then experienced the woful calamities of being a Britiſh ſubject. A ſcene of the ſame kind might happen again; for America, conſidered as a ſubject to the crown of Britain, would ever have been the ſeat of war and the bone of contention between the two powers.

On the whole, if the future expulſion of arms from one quarter of the world be a deſirable object to a peaceable man;—if the freedom of trade to every part of it can engage the attention of a man of buſineſs;—if the ſupport or fall of millions of currency can affect our intereſt;—if the entire poſſeſſion of eſtates, by cutting off the lordly claims of Britain over the ſoil, deſerves the regard of landed property;—and if the right of making our own laws, uncontrouled by royal or miniſterial ſpies or mandates, be worthy our care as freemen; then are all men intereſted in the ſupport of independence, and may he, that ſupports it not, be driven from the bleſſing, and live unpitied beneath the ſervile ſufferings of ſcandalous ſubjection!

We have been amuſed with the tales of ancient wonders; we have read, and wept over, the hiſtories of other nations; applauded, cenſured, or pitied, as their caſes affected us.—The fortitude and patience of the ſufferers—the juſtneſs of their cauſe—the weight of their oppreſſions and oppreſſors—the object to be ſaved or loſt—with all the conſequences of a defeat or a conqueſt—have, in the hour of ſympathy, bewitched our hearts and chained it to their fate: But where is the power that ever made war upon petitioners? Or where is the war on which a world was ſtaked till now?

We may not, perhaps, be wiſe enough to make all the advantages we ought of our independence; but they are, nevertheleſs, marked and preſented to us with every character of GREAT and GOOD, and worthy the hand of him who ſent them. I look through the preſent trouble to a time of tranquillity, when we ſhall have it in our power to ſet an example of peace to all the world. Were the quakers really impreſſed and influenced by the quiet principles they profeſs to hold, they would, however they might diſapprove the means, be the firſt of all men to approve of INDEPENDENCE, becauſe, by ſeparating from the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, it affords an opportunity, never given to man before, of carrying their favourite principle of peace into general practice, by eſtabliſhing governments that ſhall hereafter exiſt without wars. Oh ye fallen, cringing prieſt and P—b—n-ridden people! What more can we ſay of ye than a religious quaker is a valuable character, and a political quaker a real jeſuit.

Having thus gone over ſome of the principal points in ſupport of independence, I muſt now requeſt the reader to return back with me to the period when it firſt began to be a public doctine, and examine the progreſs it has made among the various claſſes of men. The era I mean to begin at, is the breaking out of hoſtilities, April 19th, 1775. Until this event happened, the continent ſeemed to view the diſpute as a kind of lawſuit for a matter of right, litigating between the old country and the new; and ſhe felt the ſame kind and degree of horror, as if ſhe had ſeen an oppreſſive plaintiff, at the head of a band of ruffians, enter the court, while the cauſe was before it, and put the judge, the jury, the defendant and his council to the ſword. Perhaps a more heart-felt convulſion never reached a country with the ſame degree of power and rapidity before, and never may again. Pity for the ſufferers, mixt with indignation at the violence and heightened with apprehenſions of undergoing the ſame fate, made the affair of Lexington the affair of the continent. Every part of it felt the ſhock, and all vibrated together. A general promotion of ſentiment took place: thoſe who had drank deeply into whiggiſh principles, that is, the right and neceſſity not only of oppoſing, but wholly ſetting aſide the power of the crown as ſoon as it became practically dangerous (for in theory it was always ſo) ſtept into the firſt ſtage of independence; while another claſs of whigs, equally ſound in principle, but not ſo ſanguine in enterprize, attached themſelves the ſtronger to the cauſe and fell cloſe in with the rear of the former; their partition was a mere point. Numbers of the moderate men, whoſe chief fault, *at that time*, aroſe from their entertaining a better opinion of Britain than ſhe deſerved, convinced now of their miſtake, gave her up and publicly declared themſelves good whigs. While the tories, ſeeing it was no longer a laughable matter, either ſlunk into ſilent obſcurity, or contented themſelves with coming forth and abuſing general Gage; not a ſingle advocate appeared to juſtify the action of that day; it ſeemed to appear to every one with the ſame magnitude, ſtruck every one with the ſame force, and created in every one the ſame abhorrence. From this period we may date the growth of independence.

If the many circumſtances, which happened at this memorable time, be taken in one view, and compared with each other, they will juſtify a concluſion which ſeems not to be attended to, I mean a fixt deſign in the king and miniſtry of driving America into arms, in order that they might be furniſhed with a pretence for ſeizing the whole continent as the immediate property of the crown. A noble plunder for hungry courtiers!

It ought to be remembered, that the firſt petition from the congreſs was at this time unanſwered on the part of the Britiſh king. That the motion, called lord North's motion, of the 20th of February, 1775, arrived in America the latter end of March. That motion was to be laid by the ſeveral governors, then in being, before the aſſembly of each province; and the firſt aſſembly before which it was laid, was the aſſembly of Pennſylvania in *May* following. This being a juſt ſtate of the caſe, I then aſk, why were hoſtilities commenced between the time of paſſing the reſolve in the houſe of commons, of the 20th of February, and the time of the aſſemblies meeting to deliberate upon it? Degrading and infamous as that motion was, there is, nevertheleſs, reaſon to believe, that the king and his adherents were afraid the colonies would agree to it, and leſt they ſhould, took effectual care they ſhould not, by proviſioning them with hoſtilities in the interim. They had not the leaſt doubt at that time of acquieſcing

America at one blow; and what they expected to get by a conquest being infinitely greater than any thing they could hope to get either by taxation or accommodation, they ſeemed determined to prevent even the poſſibility of hearing each other, leſt America ſhould diſappoint their greedy hopes of the whole, by liſtening even to their own terms. On the one hand they refuſed to hear the petition of the continent, and on the other hand took effectual care the continent ſhould not hear them.

That the motion of the 20th of February and the order for commencing hoſtilities were both concerted by the ſame PERSON or perſons, and not the latter by general Gage, as was falſely imagined at firſt, is evident from an extract of a letter of his to adminiſtration, read among other papers in the houſe of commons; in which he informs his maſters, *that though their idea of his diſarming certain counties was a right one, yet it required him to be maſter of the country, in order to enable him to execute it.* This was prior to the commencement of hoſtilities, and conſequently before the motion of the 20th of February could be deliberated on by the ſeveral aſſemblies.

Perhaps it may be aſked, why was the motion paſt, if there was at the ſame time a plan to aggravate the Americans not to liſten to it? Lord North aſſigned one reaſon himſelf, which was *a hope of dividing them.* This was publicly tempting them to reject it; that if, in caſe, the injury of arms ſhould fail of provoking them ſufficiently, the inſult of ſuch a declaration might fill it up. But by paſſing the motion and getting it afterwards rejected in America, it enabled them, in their wretched idea of politics, among other things, to hold up the colonies to foreign powers with every poſſible mark of diſobedience and rebellion. They had applied to thoſe powers not to ſupply the continent with arms, ammunition, &c and it was neceſſary they ſhould incenſe them againſt us, by aſſigning on their own part ſome ſeeming reputable reaſon why. By dividing, it had a tendency to weaken the ſtates, and likewiſe to perplex the adherents of America in England. But the principal ſcheme, and that which has marked their character in every part of their conduct, was a deſign of precipitating the colonies into a ſtate which they might afterwards deem rebellion, and under that pretence put an end to all future complaints, petitions or remonſtrances, by ſeizing the whole at once. They had ravaged one part of the globe, till it could glut them no longer; their prodigality required new plunder, and through the Eaſt India article TEA they hoped to tranſfer their rapine from that quarter of the world to this. Every deſigned quarrel has its pretence; and the ſame barbarian avarice accompanied the *plant* to America, which ruined the country that produced it.

That men never turn rogues without turning fools, is a maxim, ſooner or later, univerſally true. The commencement of hoſtilities, being, in the beginning of April, was, of all times, the worſt choſen: the congreſs were to meet the tenth of May following, and the diſtreſs the continent felt at this unparalleled outrage gave a ſtability to *that body*, which no other circumſtance could have done. It ſuppreſſed too all inferior debates, and bound them together by a neceſſitous affection, without giving them time to differ upon triffes. The ſuffering likewiſe, ſoftened the whole body of the people into a degree of pliability, which laid the principal foundation ſtone of union, order and government; and which, at any other time, might only have fretted and then faded away unnoticed and unimproved: but Providence, who beſt knows how to time her misfortunes as well as her immediate favours, choſe this to be the time; and who dares diſpute it?

It did not ſeem the diſpoſition of the people at this criſis to heap petition upon petition, while the former remained unanſwered: the meaſure, however, was carried in congreſs, and a ſecond petition was ſent; of which I ſhall only remark, that it was ſubmiſſive even to a dangerous fault, becauſe the prayer of it appealed ſolely to, what is called, the prerogative of the crown, while the matter in diſpute was confeſſed to be conſtitutional. But even this petition, flattering as it was, was ſtill not ſo harmonious as the chink of caſh, and conſequently not ſufficiently grateful to the tyrant and his miniſtry. From every circumſtance it is evident, that it was the determination of the Britiſh court to have nothing to do with America but to conquer it fully and abſolutely. They were certain of ſucceſs, and the field of battle was to be the only place of treaty. I am confident there are thouſands and tens of thouſands in America who wonder *now* they ſhould ever think otherwiſe; but the ſin of that day was the ſin of civility, yet it operated againſt our preſent good in the ſame manner that a civil opinion of the devil would againſt our future peace.

(To be continued.)

LONDON, *January* 30.

A letter from Liſbon, dated January 9, ſays, "The Zephyr ſloop of war has brought in here two prizes; one of them the Argo, captain Ward, and the other the ſchooner Betſey, Lebras, with 1100 quintals of bachala, bound from New-England to Bilboa, on account of the congreſs."

Feb. 6. Sir John Fielding went yeſterday to lord Suffolk's office, and held a long conference with his lordſhip, relative to the perſon who was taken up on ſuſpicion of ſetting fire to the rope-yard at Portſmouth; his worſhip afterwards attended the lords of the admiralty, and was before the board near three hours on the ſame buſineſs.

Four large veſſels are taken up in the river for the ſole purpoſe of carrying over live bullocks, hogs and ſheep to New-York, for his majeſty's troops there.

Sunday a meſſenger was ſent from lord Weymouth's office, with diſpatches to lord Stormont at the court of Verſailles.

The American diſpatches brought over in the Aurora, have afforded great ſatisfaction to the miniſtry. The veſſel was taken by the bravery of four Engliſhmen, who happening to be upon deck with their loaded fuſees, whilſt the American ſailors were up in the ſhrowds, preſented their pieces and ordering them to come down ſingly, ſecured them under the hatches, and ſteered for Liverpool.

Incloſed was a packet from the congreſs for Dr. Franklin, ſealed with their arms, which, with a delicacy not always to be met in Britiſh tars, they forbore to open, rightly judging it improper for the contents to be made known to any other than adminiſtration.

This packet they brought to London, and on Sunday morning delivered it into the hands of lord North. The contents of this packet will inform government of what they have long wiſhed to know, the true motives of Dr. Franklin's journey to the court of France.

Letters from Peterſburgh, dated January 17th, mention, that the Ruſſian army had defeated 12,000 Turks, who had ſtrongly entrenched themſelves near Precop, and forced the lines at the Iſthmus, which were ſeven werſts in length, extending from the ſea of Aſoph or Paulus Mœotis to the Black Sea. Her imperial majeſty's troops have taken a great quantity of baggage and ammunition, and from this ſignal victory are become entirely maſters of the Crimea.

Feb. 8. Tueſday laſt arrived at Glaſgow, one of the independent companies of the 42d regiment, or royal highlanders, from Fort-George, in order to embark for America;—four companies of the 71ſt are alſo ordered for the ſame place. It is alſo ſaid the firſt battalion of the Scots royals are to embark for America from Greenock at the ſame time.

An additional company to every regiment in Canada, is ordered to be ready for embarkation.

Twenty officers of the guards, of different ranks, are ordered to be ready to embark to relieve the like number in America.

Yeſterday the lower aſſembly received a copy of a convention concluded between his majeſty and the landgrave of Heſſe-Caſſel, relative to taking more foreign troops into our ſervice, dated on the 12th of December laſt, which was ordered to lie on the table to be peruſed.

Feb. 9. Two American veſſels, with about 2000 barrels of flour on board, from Philadelphia for Bourdeaux, are taken off the Bermuda iſlands, and ſent to the Weſt-Indies.

A further number of troops, it is ſaid, will be aſked from Ireland, and their places to be ſupplied by new levies.

The additional troops for which the treaty was ſigned laſt December with the prince of Heſſe, conſiſt entirely of foot, and no general officers.

Extract of a letter from Hanau, Jan. 24.

"A corps of volunteer chaſſeurs are raiſing here for the ſervice of, and to be in the pay of Great-Britain, deſtined to join the corps of troops of Heſſe-Hanau in America.—They will have the ſame high pay which the court of London hath given to the Heſſian chaſſeurs."

Feb. 16. Friday laſt orders were given for ſhipping 2000 barrels of porter, in order to be ſent as ſoon as poſſible to Rhode-Iſland, for our troops.

Feb. 17. Every preparation is making on the ſide of government, in order to render the enſuing campaign in America deciſive; as the land forces are to be conſiderably augmented, and double the number of cruizers will be employed, the more effectually to block up the ports of the colonies, and prevent their carrying on any trade at all.

General Burgoyne is expected to ſail in about ſix weeks for Canada, to which province he will be attended by ſeveral young noblemen and gentlemen as volunteers.

Feb. 20. Two regiments or battalions of foot are to go from England this ſpring, and the like number from Ireland.

The above troops, with the additional German auxiliaries, will make a reinforcement of 20,000 men to the army in America.

The Raiſonable of 64 guns, at Plymouth, and the Iſis, of 50 guns, at Portſmouth, are to replace the Aſia and Experiment, returned from America.

Yeſterday a draught was made from the guards, when only two out of every company were taken, and twelve men out of ſeveral of the companies offered themſelves as volunteers.

Advice is ſaid to have been received from Paris, that lord Stormont, having information that an American privateer was at Breſt, taking on board a cargo of warlike ſtores, made application to the court of Verſailles, who ſent orders for the above veſſel to reland her lading, and depart from that port immediately. *(Very probable!)*

It is aſſerted that a meſſenger ſet out yeſterday for Peterſburgh, with inſtructions for the Britiſh miniſter at that court to forward with all poſſible expedition the completion of the treaty, by which the empreſs engages to furniſh Great-Britain with a body of 20,000 men.

The bill to enable his majeſty to ſecure and detain perſons charged with high-treaſon in America, or for piracy on the ſeas, was read the ſecond time; whereupon great debates enſued, which continued from four till a quarter before nine, when the houſe divided,

For the bill	——	195
Againſt it	——	39
	Majority	156

Feb. 25. All the troops deſtined for America will be embarked before the 20th of March, in order to be early in the field.

Feb. 27. Yeſterday the houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee, to conſider the permitting the importation of lumber, and the following reſolutions were agreed to.

Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, That the planters in the Weſt-India iſlands are in great want of ſtaves, and other lumber, for their plantations.

Reſolved, That it is expedient to authoriſe Britiſh ſhips or veſſels to carry lumber from the Baltic, the North and Mediterranean ſeas, to the Weſt-India iſlands, for a limited time.

Reſolved, That it may be expedient to grant a bounty on ſtaves and other lumber, imported from Canada, Eaſt and Weſt Florida, Nova-Scotia, and the iſland of St. John's to the Weſt-Indies, and Muſqueto-Shore.

Reſolved, That it may alſo be expedient to enable his majeſty's commiſſioners in North-America, and governor Tryon, governor of the province of New-York, to grant licences to the commanders of Britiſh ſhips, to export lumber to the Weſt-India iſlands from the province of New-York for a limited time.

Sir William Erſkine is appointed aid-de-camp to his majeſty, in the room of Sir Thomas Spencer Wilſon, preferred.

Extract of a letter from Plymouth, Feb. 4.

"They talk of fitting up Storehouſe priſon (uſed as ſuch laſt war) for the Americans who may be taken and brought in here."

Yeſterday admiral Shuldham, lately arrived from New-York, was at court, and had a conference with the king, and kiſſed his majeſty's hand on being created an Iriſh peer.

Yeſterday the bill for detention of perſons without bail or mainprize, who might be ſeized on ſuſpicion of treaſon committed in America, or of piracy on the high ſeas, was read the third time, and paſſed by the lords.

This morning ſome freſh advices were received at lord George Germaine's office, from general Meaſe, at New-York, which were brought over in the Favourite Betſey, capt. Squires, who arrived yeſterday off Dover, after a paſſage of five weeks: Capt. Squires writes as follows:

"That on his paſſage he ſpoke with the Lord North, who had fallen in with the King George, a tranſport, which was diſmaſted and otherwiſe in diſtreſs, and had on board a great number of Heſſian recruits, which the lord North took out and arrived ſafe with them.

BOSTON, *April* 24.

Laſt Sunday arrived in a ſafe port, from Bourdeaux, in France, a large ſhip, of 20 carriage guns, after a paſſage of 54 days, fitted out by private merchants from that port: her cargo conſiſts of ready made cloaths, linens and woollens of all kinds, powder, and a great number of arms, &c. &c. &c. She has on board a commiſſion from the French king, empowering her, that in caſe ſhe was attacked by any Britiſh pirate ſhip, to repel force by force, and capture them.

Same day was ſent into a ſafe port at the ſouthward, by capt. Smedley, in a brig belonging to the ſtate of Connecticut, a brigantine from Ireland, bound to Antigua, with a valuable cargo of beef, pork, butter, &c. &c.

Capt. Smedley has alſo ſent into an eaſtern port, a ſhip from Ireland bound to New-York, with a valuable cargo of proviſions.

A ſhip from Ireland bound to the Weſt-Indies is ſent into another ſouthern port; as is alſo arrived a ſhip from ſome part of France at the ſame port.

Monday was ſent into a ſafe port at the eaſtward, by capt. Skimmer, in a privateer belonging to this ſtate, a ſchooner from Canſo, bound to Barbados, laden with fiſh and oil.

We are credibly informed, that two of the enemy's frigates are cruizing in Ipſwich bay; and that they have taken ſeveral veſſels.

A ſtate ſloop of war, arrived in port laſt Sunday afternoon, from Martinico, having on board a valuable cargo, conſiſting of the following, viz. 1200 ſtands of arms—13,000 weight of powder—a quantity of lines, and ſeveral hundred buſhels of ſalt.

PROVIDENCE, *April* 19.

Saturday laſt a ſmall ſloop, bound from hence to Updike's-Newtown, ran aground in the bay, and was burnt by a boat from one of the enemy's ſhips. She had on board a quantity of houſhold furniture, which was ſaved.

A gentleman from the weſtward informs, that the enemy at New-York continue to treat the American priſoners with great barbarity. Their allowance to each man for three days is 1 lb. of beef, three worm eaten muſty biſcuits, and a quart of ſalt water; the meat they are obliged to eat raw, as they have not the ſmalleſt allowance of fuel. Owing to this more than ſavage cruelty, the priſoners die faſt, and in the ſmall ſpace of three weeks (during the winter) no leſs than 1300 brave men periſhed. Nothing ſhort of retaliation will compel thoſe Britiſh barbarians to reſpect the law of nations.

The ſame gentleman informs, that a wealthy tory, who owned a fertile farm on the North river, worth fifteen hundred pounds ſterling, and who ſome time ſince fled to Howe and Co. for protection, was lately ſeen in the ſtreets of New-York, ſawing wood for a miſerable ſubſiſtence; that ſervile employ, or inliſting into the miniſterial army, being his only alternative to prevent ſtarving.

The American Revenue privateer, of New-London, has taken and ſent into North-Carolina, a veſſel bound from London to New-York, valued at 30,000l. ſterling.

NEW-HAVEN, *April* 23.

We have advices from Martinico, (to the 22d ult.) that there were then in that iſland about 4000 troops, and two battalions more daily expected from France; that proviſions were plenty, and trade briſk; that there were at St. Pieres, a number of Engliſhmen, three of whom were ſuppoſed to be officers from New-York, which they left in January, and were to return in a man of war that was refitting at Antigua; that about the middle of January, there was great rejoicings in many of the Engliſh iſlands, on account of gen. Howe's ſucceſs againſt the rebels, eſpecially on his taking Philadelphia, as was reported among them, but they ſoon had that good news contradicted, and a well authenticated account of gen. Waſhington's ſucceſſes at Trenton and Princeton; that a great difference had ſubſiſted between the inhabitants of Antigua, and admiral Young, on his refuſing to commiſſion a number of arm'd veſſels fitted out there.

Thurſday evening laſt, a little after ſun ſet, about thirty tories, aſſaulted and diſarmed five or ſix continental ſoldiers, who were paſſing through New-Town; but a number of friends to their country aſſembling, ſoon diſperſed the inſurgents, five or ſix of them were taken, among whom is the leader, who has been to, and from the enemy, ſeveral times the winter paſt. The reſt of the gang are not yet apprehended.

Laſt week, ſeveral diſaffected perſons were taken up and brought to town, being charged with treaſonable practices againſt the United States; two of them, the moſt culpable, have been committed to gaol, the others were admitted to bail.

FISH-KILL, *May* 1.

Laſt Friday afternoon, upwards of 20 ſail of men of war and tranſports appeared coming up the ſound from New-York, and ſoon after came to anchor near Fairfield, in Connecticut, and in the evening about 3000 of the enemy landed at a place called Compo, about ſix miles weſt of Fairfield, and early next morning marched to Danbury, which place they ſet on fire, the greateſt part of which is entirely conſumed. They likewiſe took poſſeſſion of the continental ſtores at that place, which were very conſiderable, and which they deſtroyed.

The enemy uſed ſome of the inhabitants with great barbarity. They were attacked in their retreat by a party of militia. They loſt about 200 killed and taken priſoners. Gen. Wooſter, we are told, is badly wounded; gen. Arnold had his horſe ſhot under him;

ol. Lamb is slightly wounded; and about [illegible] re killed, and some wounded, of our people. The ene- y tarried all night in Danbury. Tryon told the people f the house where he lodged, that the troops would not ave come there, had they not been conducted by our wn people—meaning, no doubt, the tories. The ene- y had got back to their shipping before gen. M'Dou- al could come up with them. We have not been able o learn farther particulars.

PHILADELPHIA.

Head-quarters, Philadelphia, April 29.

GENERAL ORDERS.

On the application of col. Proctor, who supposed that certain Mr. William Riche had insinuated to gen. Gates suspicions injurious to his character, gen. Schuy- er requested the attendance of gen. Scott, lieut. col. Antil, col. Irvine and col. Dean, at head-quarters in his city: col. Proctor and Mr. Riche being called on, nd the latter asked what he knew to the disadvantage f col. Proctor, either as an officer, gentleman, or riend to his country, he repeatedly declared that he new nothing to his disadvantage. The general and ther gentlemen abovementioned, were therefore unani- mously of opinion, that col. Proctor's character stands air and unimpeached, and that he should be considered n the same favourable point of light in which he stood efore such suspicions had been insinuated against him.

By order of the honourable major gen. Schuyler,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON, A. D. C.

Extract of a letter from general Washington to congress, dated May 5, 1777.

"By major Troop, one of gen. Gates's aids, and who left Albany on Tuesday last, I am informed the ac- counts of gen. Carleton's approach towards Ticondero- ga were premature. He says gen. Gates received a let- ter before he came away from brig. gen. Wayne, of the 24th ult. in which he mentioned nothing of it. That three thousand troops had arrived there, all in high spirits and health, except nine, and that that post could never be carried without the loss of much blood."

Published by order of Congress,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

APPENDIX to the report of the committee, containing proofs and illustrations—Continued from our last.

Extract of a letter from John Cochran, on Long-Island, to his wife in New-Hampshire, intercepted with others sent the late Governor Wentworth to his sisters.

"My Dear,

"I WOULD willingly Advise but knows not how or what to Advise you too at this distance. I shall leave it intirely to your judgement what you think best to be done in these unhappy days, for I am so puzzled about giving my Advice what to do that I am almost Crasy, however I think upon the whole it would be best to re- move farther off in the country as I am afraid you will suffer where you are before it will be in my power to protect you, as there will be nothing but distruction of property without any reserve, in that Case would have you send off the most valuable effects you have left to some safe place, if you know of any—I shall either hope to find you at the Isle Shoals or up at Londonderry—if you intend to Tarry where you are I pray for Gods sake that there be no CLERGYMAN in the House, if there is; your life is not worth a Farthing as the whole race of that tribe will be spilt—if you see any prospect of the affairs being Given up without Bloodshead I had rather find you at Hampton, than any where Else, &c.

JOHN COCHRAN."

Affidavit of the Rev. Mr. George Duffield.

The following circumstances relative to the death of the Reverend Mr. Rosborough, Chaplain to a Battalion of the Pennsylvania Militia, who was killed at Trenton, on the evening of the second of January last, (the day of the engagement there,) I was informed of by some of the inhabitants in those parts, on whose veracity I could well depend, viz.

THAT as a party of the Hessian jagers marched down the back of the town, after our troops had re- treated, they fell in with Mr. Rosborough, who sur- rendered himself a prisoner; notwithstanding which one of them struck him on the head with a sword or cut- lass, and then stabbed him several times with a bayonet, whilst imploring mercy and begging his life at their hands. That this account was given by a Hessian who said that he had killed him; (save only that he did not know Mr. Rosborough's name, but called him *a damn'd rebel minister*, and that Cortland Skinner and several other officers, who were present at the relation of the fact, highly applauded the perpetrator for what he had done. That after he was thus massacred he was strip- ped naked, and in that condition left lying in the open field, till afterwards taken up and buried near the place by some of the inhabitants. On the Monday following I saw the corps, when raised in order to inter it in the burying ground, and observed that besides the strokes which had been given him on the head with some edged weapon, he had been stabbed with a bayonet in the back of the neck and between his ribs on the right side, which last appeared remarkably deep, and from which, even then, there issued a large quantity of blood.

GEORGE DUFFIELD.

Philadelphia, ss.

Personally came before me, James Young, Esq; one of the Justices of the Peace, the Rev. George Duffield, and made oath to the truth of the above relation.

Sworn the 25th of April, 1777.

before me, JAMES YOUNG.

Compare the above testimonies with the following well known facts—

The Presbyterian Churches almost without excep- tion, are turned into barracks, stables or prisons.

The College of New-Jersey was made use of for all those purposes.

BALTIMORE, *May* 10.

Cargo of the Amphitrite, of 18 carriage guns, ar- rived on the 24th of April, at Portsmouth, New- Hampshire, from France. 52 field pieces, viz. 21 brass cannon, (long mounted) 4 pounders, on 4 wheels, com- plete, 31 ditto, Swedish make, ditto, 20,160 cannon ball, 9,000 grenades, 24 000 lead bullets, 2,900 spades, 299 scoops, 3,900 mattocks, 500 pole axes, 1,500 bills, 6,130 ball, 4 lb, 1,000 match, 925 tents, 18,000 pounds can- non powder, a large quantity of linens, clothes, and cloaths, 5 bales of blankets, 62 boxes of tin plates.

ANNAPOLIS, MAY 15.

By his EXCELLENCY THOMAS JOHNSON, Esq; GOVERNOR of MARYLAND,

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS I have been well informed, that the house of John Seward, of Charles county, was lately in the night time burnt down, and that the bodies of him- self, his wife, his child, and a negro girl, have been dis- covered in the rubbish, not so far consumed, but that plain marks of violence appear on them, leaving no doubt but they have been cruelly murdered; and fur- ther, that, as the deceased was known to have kept a quantity of gold by him, no trace of which can be dis- covered, it is inferred that the murders were committed to prevent the detection of a previous robbery: For bringing to justice, therefore, the perpetrators of this complicated villainy, I have, with the advice of the council, thought proper to publish this my proclama- tion, hereby offering a reward of two hundred dollars for apprehending and securing either of the persons who committed, or in any wise assisted in the commission of, any of the said crimes, to be paid on conviction.

Given at Annapolis this thirteenth day of May, anno domini seventeen hundred and seventy-seven.

THO. JOHNSON.

By his excellency's command,

R. RIDGELY, Sec.

GOD save the STATE.

In COUNCIL, Annapolis, May 13, 1777.

SUCH of the collectors of blankets as have not made returns agreeable to the late act of assembly, and there are many such, are desired forthwith to send such as they may have collected to the receivers, according to their commissions, as the public service may not be im- peded.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, Cl. Co.

In COUNCIL, April 24, 1777.

THE general assembly having empowered the go- vernor, with the advice of the council, to contract with any person or persons to furnish rations or provisions, either at a certain price for the ration, or by allowing an adequate reward for the trouble such contractor may be at in procuring and furnishing such provisions for the continental troops, while in this state, and the ar- tillery companies and other troops in the pay and ser- vice of this state, for the particular defence thereof; every person who is desirous of contracting to furnish the troops in either manner, is requested to send in his proposals in writing, sealed up and directed to the clerk of the council, on or before the third day of June next, at which are intended to be opened and com- pared the morning following, and the preference given to the best offer.

R. RIDGELY, Cl. Co.

Annapolis, May 12, 1777.

NECESSITY COMPELS THE MEASURE.

THE term of the COPARTNERSHIP between WALLACE, DAVIDSON, AND JOHNSON, having expired on the first day of January last, and the present cruel and unjust war prosecuting by Great-Bri- tain against the freedom of America, rendering it im- practicable to renew the same; notice is hereby given, that by mutual consent the said PARTNERSHIP was dis- solved on that day accordingly: it is necessary, there- fore, our affairs be settled; wherefore we earnestly re- quest all persons indebted to the concern in any man- ner, to make full and immediate payment, which has been too long neglected by many, who, taking advan- tage of the times, [illegible] due to us; from such conduct lenity ought not to be expected, yet such as have it not in their power imme- diately to settle their open accounts by payment, are, for the last time, desired to settle the same by bonds.

That branch of the business in the management of our Mr. JOHNSON, in London, will with fidelity be care- fully attended to, until the completion thereof; and our friends experience of his past conduct will, we hope, sufficiently recommend him to their future favours, wherever his judgment, for mutual benefits, may di- rect him to settle. tf

WALLACE, DAVIDSON, AND JOHNSON.

Annapolis, May 13, 1777.

THE subscriber, having the management of the TAN-YARD belonging to this state, will give encou aging prices for any quantity of sound green or dried hides, delivered in this city; where proper en- couragement will be given to a good tanner, and the best price paid for shoe thread, by

WILLIAM GOLDSMITH.

May 6, 1777.

PATAPSCO SLITTING-MILL.

THIS is to inform the public, that the subscriber's MILL is compleatly finished, and now at work, where he sells RAIL RODS of all sorts, SHEET IRON, thick and thin, and HOOPING of any breadth or thick- ness, upon as good terms as they can be procured in any of the United States.

tf WILLIAM WHETCROFT.

N. B. A number of NAILORS are wanted, to whom great encouragement will be given, by W. W.

May 2, 1777.

To be SOLD,

A LEASE, for twenty years, of a lot of ground, containing two acres and one perch, whereon there is a good dwelling-house with six rooms, three of them have fire-places, a good kitchen, a stable, a chair-house, a meat-house, and other convenient houses, a good cellar the length of the house, a large garden and yard well paled in: It is pleasantly situated on Patowmack river, about half a mile from Nanjemoy warehouses. There are about sixty acres of land all in woods which he will sell to the person that buys the lot; it lies con- venient for fire-wood. By applying to the subscriber, near Maryland-Point, on Patowmack river, may know the terms.

tf ROBERT KNOX.

day of June next, at the evening-house of the Benjamin Harrison, at West-River, for sterling continental or convention currency,

A Parcel of healthy NEGROES, consisting of men, women, and children, amongst whom are two young fellows that are very good sawyers.

SAM. HARRISON, } Executors.
w3 SAM. HARRISON, Jun. }

May 13, 1777.

To be SOLD at public sale, at Alexandria, Virginia, for ready cash, on Friday the 23d of this month,

THE schooner Susanna and George, a prime sailer, well fitted and sound, and is about 50 tons bur- then. Also a cargo of goods, consisting of molasses, lump and loaf sugar, blankets, broad coating, oznabrigs, pins and needles, wood compasses, Russia sheet- ing, handkerchiefs, and salt.

aw JENIFER and HOOE.

I beg leave to inform my acquaintance and others, that I have opened SCHOOL at the same place I taught about a year ago, at Mrs. Lansdale's plantation, in Prince-George's county, where I teach Greek, Latin, and the English language.—Any gentlemen or ladies, who shall think proper to entrust me with the tuition of their children, may depend I will exert all my abilities to make them masters of these so useful and necessary tongues, and shall at all times be very assiduous in teaching them to speak English correctly; the better to accomplish which, I propose having pub- lic examinations and rehearsals, twice or thrice a year, before gentlemen whom I shall select to visit my school regularly for that and also the purpose of laying down proper rules and orders by which my little academy shall be governed. My school is in a neighbourhood of great plenty, therefore board may be easily had. As to my moral character, I must refer strangers to those who know me; and as to my abilities as a teacher, I have to shew the very best credentials.

w4 THOMAS LLOYD.

N. B. Those gentlemen who have promised to fa- vour me with their children are requested to send them as soon as possible.

April 10, 1777.

BUCEPHALUS,

A fine, strong, active, handsome, young horse, full blood, he is known to get remarkable fine colts,

COVERS this season, at my ferry, on the Eastern Branch of Patowmack river, at thirty shillings per mare, and insures at three pounds; and ten shillings a single leap. Any gentlemen who will favour me with their mares may depend good care shall be taken of them, and pasturage at two shillings and sixpence per week, by their humble servant,

SAMUEL COLLARD.

N. B. The money to be paid down at the stable door, before the mares are covered.

April 27, 1777.

FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in St. Mary's county, on Tuesday the 15th instant, an indented servant negro man, named NATHANIEL ADAMS, about two or three and thirty years of age, a short well set fellow, one of his ears appears to be cropped; had on, when he went away, a snuff-coloured broad-cloth coat and waistcoat, that have been turned, country cloth breeches, country linen shirt, old shoes and stockings, and straw hat. Whoever secures the said fellow, so that I may get him again, shall have the above reward. W. B. SMOOT.

N. B. He has several old discharges from masters of vessels, which he probably may shew to pass for a free man.

Mount-Airy, April 29, 1777.

RAN away, the 19th of April, from the subscriber, living at Mount Airy, in Prince George's coun- ty, Maryland, HUGH MORRIS, a convict, a tailor by trade, has better than four years to serve; he is about five feet ten inches high, of a fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair which he ties behind; he has formerly been a soldier, and is much given to drink; he carried away with him a brown kersey frock coat, about half worn, an old brown striped cotton waistcoat, the hind part plaid, light brown fill'd country cloth breeches, yarn stockings, and country made shoes, he has several other cloaths with him; he likewise took with him his bedding, consisting of an oznabrig bed, a large rug, and a match-coat blanket: It is supposed that he has got a forged pass with him. Whoever brings him to the subscriber, with his cloaths and bedding, if taken above twenty miles from home, shall have five pounds, besides what the law allows, with travelling charges; if a shorter distance, three pounds, with the same allowance, paid by

BENEDICT CALVERT.

Kent-Island, May 13, 1777.

RAN away from the subscriber the two following servant men: GEORGE MOOR, a waiter, a- bout five feet ten inches high, short hair; took with him a London brown coat and jacket trimmed with metal buttons. JOSIAH HATTERSLEY, a school- master, of a pale complexion, with short hair; he has the itch very bad, and sore legs; had on a green coat and jacket: they were heard to enquire for the road to Charles Town in South-Carolina.—Whoever se- cures the said servants, so that I get them again, shall receive, if fifty miles from Annapolis, ten pounds, and if one hundred miles, twenty pounds reward, of

MARY PRICE.

Prince George's county, May 1, 1777.

LOST, the 29th of last month, at the Forest Ball- house, or on the road from thence to Mr. Hum- phry Belt's, a large black leather pocket-book, with several bills of paper money, to the amount of about forty pounds currency, with letters and other papers of no use but to the owner. Any person having it in possession, by delivering it to Mr. Humphry Belt, or the subscriber, shall receive a reward of five pounds currency, and no questions asked.

w2 JOHN SPRIGG BELT.

May 13, 1777.

STOLEN or strayed from the subscriber, about the fourth day of April last, a black HORSE, with a star in his forehead, switch tail, paces, trots, and gal- lops, shod all round, about fourteen hands high, and nine years old; brand, if any, not perceptible. Who- ever brings and delivers the said horse to me, at the city of Annapolis, shall receive twenty shillings, paid by w4 JAMES TAYLOE.

Annapolis, April 28, 1777.

PURSUANT to a reſolve of the General Aſſembly, we hereby give notice, that we will attend on the Monday, Tueſday and Wedneſday of every week (and oftner if required) at the houſe where the aſſembly is uſually held, to audit and paſs all accounts due from or to the ſtate of Maryland: And all perſons that have heretofore had public monies advanced to them, are requeſted to tranſmit their reſpective accounts to us of the expenditure thereof. The late treaſurers, under the old government, are alſo requeſted to render an account of their proceedings, and the balances in their hands reſpectively, if any: And all committees of obſervation, and collectors of fines, are alſo requeſted to render an account of all monies by them reſpectively received.

THO. B. HODGKIN,
J. JOHNSON.

A clerk to the board is wanted. Any perſon, well qualified to act, may receive a ſalary of 125l. per ann.

SIXTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, April 28, 1777.

DESERTED, from captain William Brown's company of artillery, WILLIAM POLAND, a matroſs in ſaid company: He is a remarkable perſon, being about five feet high, 20 years of age, brown complexion, dark hair, has very large legs, and is round ſhouldered; he is an Engliſhman born, and ſerved his time near George-Town. Whoever takes up ſaid deſerter, and brings him to the ſubſcriber, ſhall receive twenty dollars reward.

Likewiſe deſerted, the beginning of November laſt, the two following perſons. JOHN TUBSHAW, about 30 years of age 5 feet 10 inches high, fair complexion, ſandy hair, full faced, and very likely; he formerly lived on Rock-creek, near Newport, in Montgomery county.

MOSES LITTLE, 27 years of age, 5 feet 7 inches high, fair complexion; formerly lived on the ſugar lands in Montgomery county. Whoever takes up the above deſerters, ſhall receive twenty dollars reward for each of them, if brought to Annapolis.

tf WILLIAM BROWN.

TWELVE DOLLARS REWARD.

May 6, 1777.

DESERTED, from the 1ſt diviſion of the 2d Maryland regiment, at the Head of Elk, on their march to Philadelphia, on or about the 24th of laſt month, a certain Daniel O'Boyle, alias Biles, born in Ireland, about 30 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches high, a ſmart, active, well made fellow; had on a blue coat faced with ſcarlet, blue waiſtcoat and breeches; he was inliſted in Cæcil county. The above reward, and one ſhilling per mile, will be paid, if delivered to lieutenant Hardman, in Philadelphia, or to the ſubſcriber, in Annapolis.

W4 RICHARD GRACE, lieut.

EIGHTY DOLLARS REWARD,

April 5, 1777.

WENT away this day from the ſubſcriber's plantation, in Prince-George's county, near Patuxent iron-works, an Engliſh convict ſervant man, named JOHN BRETT, a young fellow about 22 years of age, 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, pitted with the ſmall-pox, wears his own yellow hair, has gray eyes, and a down look, when ſpoke to; had on and took with him, an old faſhioned dove coloured broad cloth coat, a chocolate coloured wilton cloth waiſtcoat, a pair of Ruſſia drab breeches, one white and one brown linen ſhirt, new felt hat, good new ſhoes, a pair of yarn ſtockings, and a ſoldier's cap covered with a ſlip of bearſkin.

Alſo went away from the ſubſcriber, about 5 or 6 weeks ago, an Engliſh ſervant man, named WILLIAM LOWE, a likely young fellow, about 25 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches high, has gray eyes, and wears his own ſhort light coloured hair; his apparel was a brown cloth coat and waiſtcoat, Ruſſia drab breeches, a white linen ſhirt, white ribbed ſtockings, good ſhoes and buckles, and an old felt hat. Whoever takes up ſaid ſervants, ſhall be paid, on delivering them to the ſubſcriber, at his dwelling plantation, the above reward, or forty dollars for either, by

W5 THOMAS SNOWDEN.

St. Mary's county, April 8.

BY virtue of a commiſſion from the honourable the Council of Safety, empowering us, the ſubſcribers, to make ſale of all veſſels drifted on ſhore, or made captures of from Dunmore's fleet: Will be ſold to the higheſt bidder, on Tueſday the 29th inſtant, if fair, if not on the next fair day, at the houſe of Mr. Baſil Brooke, on Clement's-Bay, a SLOOP, burthen about 4000 buſhels,

VERNON HEBB,
TIMOTHY BOWES.

April 10, 1777.

ALL perſons who have any demands againſt the late contractors for victualling the Maryland troops, are requeſted to bring in their accounts to the victualling-office, at the city of Annapolis and Baltimore-Town, in one month from this date, that they may be diſcharged, as they are deſirous of ſettling their accounts

W4 BUCHANAN and CUMMINS.

April 21, 1777.

To be S O L D,

A TRACT of LAND in Anne-Arundel county, on Elk-Ridge, about two miles from the church, containing two hundred acres, with a very good apple orchard, and about ſix or eight acres of meadow may be very eaſily made; a dwelling-houſe with three rooms on the lower floor, and ſundry other out-houſes. The title is good.—Alſo the one half part of a griſt-mill, on a draught of Patuxent river, which is in partnerſhip with Charles Greenbury Ridgely: The mill is in good repair, and is about a mile from the land. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe may view the land and mill, and know the terms, by applying to the ſubſcriber, living on the premiſes.

W5 RICHARD WHITLE.

To be SOLD at public vendue, on Thurſday the 29th of May, by the ſubſcriber, at his dwelling-houſe on Rock-Creek, Montgomery county, near major Crab's,

A PARCEL of land, including his dwelling plantation, containing 436 acres, about 17 miles from George-Town, the ſame diſtance from Bladenſburg, 40 miles from Baltimore, and about 30 from Frederick-Town: The farm is in good order, fencing chiefly new, and the fields laid off in ſuch a manner as to be very convenient for paſturage of ſtock, whereon is a large young orchard juſt getting into prime, a comfortable dwelling houſe, kitchen, barn, &c. about one hundred acres of ſaid land is well ſituated for meadow, ſome of which is already cleared and in grain. The main branch of Rock-Creek runs through ſaid land, and affords a valuable mill-ſeat. Continental or convention currency will be received in payment, and two years credit will be given for one third of the purchaſe money, on giving bond on intereſt, with approved ſecurity.

JOHN KENNEDY.

W4 P. S. The ſale to begin at one o'clock.

JOLLY BALL

STANDS at Mr. Tobias Bolt's, and will cover this ſeaſon, for ſix dollars, ready money, or eight, if not paid when the mare refuſes. He is a well bred hunter, full fifteen hands high, nine years old, a deep cheſnut, three white feet, and a blaze in his face; paces, trots and gallops well.

W3

Alexandria, April 26, 1777.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD

For apprehending the following priſoners, who made their eſcape laſt night, about 12 o'clock, viz.

BARTLETT GOODRICH, James Parker, George Blair, John Cunningham, John Rothery, Joſiah Rogers, John Todd, William Nicholls, and John Duncan. It is expected they croſſed the river Patowmack, as ſeveral horſes are miſſing from Alexandria. The four firſt were inhabitants of or near Norfolk borough, Virginia.

Whoever apprehends the ſaid priſoners, ſhall be paid the above reward, or in proportion for either of them.

tf ABRAHAM BURFORD.

THERE is at the plantation of Benjamin Neel Vermilon, near Piſcataway, in Prince-George's county, taken up as a ſtray, an iron-gray mare, about thirteen hands and a half high, eight years old, branded on the near thigh thus, T.-- The owner may have her again on proving his property and paying charges. w3

April 20, 1777.

TAKEN up by the ſubſcriber, living on the head of Severn, a black mare, about 13 hands high, ſhod round, ſwitch tail, hanging mane, ſome white ſpots about her, no perceptible brand, trots and gallops, and is about 8 years old. The owner, on proving his property and paying charges, may have her again.

3w REZIN HAMMOND.

MAHOMET,

A beautiful horſe, of the Arabian breed, full fifteen hands high, ſix years old this ſpring, a beautiful dapple gray, exceedingly well made, and anſwers extraordinary well either for the turf, ſaddle, or carriage,

STANDS this ſeaſon (which will be until the 20th of Auguſt next) at the following moſt reaſonable prices, viz. Twenty-five ſhillings if paid the firſt time the mare is covered, otherwiſe five dollars when the mare refuſes, and if not then paid eight dollars, Continental currency.

The ſubſcriber hath for ſale ſome beautiful full blooded mares and colts.

w6 BENJ. PHILPOTT.

TO COVER,

MARIUS,

STANDING at Mr. Carroll's plantation beyond Elk-Ridge, at four guineas a mare for the ſeaſon, and a dollar currency to the groom. Send no mares unleſs the money be ſent with them. There is good paſturage and good fences. Mr. Carroll will not be anſwerable ſhould any mares chance to ſtray away.

TICKETS

IN THE

AMERICAN STATES LOTTERY

TO BE SOLD BY

WALLACE AND DAVIDSON

IN

ANNAPOLIS.

Annapolis, April 2, 1777.

ALL perſons having claims againſt the eſtate of HUGH HENLEY, late of this city, deceaſed, are deſired to exhibit them properly authenticated; and all perſons indebted to the ſaid eſtate, will, I expect as ſoon as convenient, make payment to

CORNELIUS GARRETSON, admr.

SWEEPER

WILL cover MARES this ſeaſon at col. Sharpe's plantation on the North ſide of Severn river, (ſeven miles from Annapolis) at three pounds currency a mare, and a dollar to the groom. He is 15 hands 2 inches and a half high. He is allowed by good judges to be a compleat horſe; he was got by Dr. Hamilton's Figure, ſon of Old Figure, who was got by Standard. Sweeper's dam was got by Othello, ſon of Old Crab; his grand-dam by Morton's Traveller; his great-grand-dam col. Taſker's Selima, got by the Godolphin Arabian.

N. B. Good graſs for mares at 2/6 per week; the money to be paid for the uſe of the horſe at the time of covering. No mares loſt out of the paſture will be accounted for. tf

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THE high bred horſe CARELESS will cover this ſeaſon at Strawberry-hill, at three pounds a mare and five ſhillings the groom, if the mare is paſtured; ſix dollars and five ſhillings the groom, if not paſtured; or twenty ſhillings the ſingle leap.

CARELESS is a fine bay, riſing ſix years old, full fourteen hands three inches high, was got by col. Taylor's Fearnought, his dam by Dove, his grand-dam (the dam of King Herod) by Othello, his great-grand-dam by Old Spark, out of Queen Mab, a high bred imported mare, who was the dam of Old Millie, and col. Hopper's Pacolet.

N. B. The mares will be received by Thomas Williamſon, who will take proper care of them, but not be anſwerable for any that may get away. tf

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EIGHT DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, April 28, 1777.

DESERTED from the ſhip DEFENCE, ſome time ago, BENJAMIN HOBBS, and was ſeen in the city the 26th inſtant: He is a thick, well made fellow, about four feet five inches high, of a ſwarthy complexion, black hair that curls behind; had on a blue jacket and a hunting-ſhirt under it, a pair of trouſers, old ſtockings and ſhoes. Whoever takes up ſaid Hobbs, and delivers him to the ſhip, ſhall be intitled to the above reward; and ſhould the ſhip not be in the ſtate, to be put on board ſome of the gallies.

GEO. COOK.

April 31, 1777.

ANNE-ARUNDEL county court will meet on the third Tueſday in May next, for the purpoſe of laying the public levy, and for regulating the county ferries, when all conſtables are deſired to bring in their liſt of taxables on that day.

To the PUBLIC.

In CONGRESS, *January* 15, 1777.

RESOLVED, That the Continental Treaſurer be empowered and directed to borrow money on loan-office certificates; that the ſame be counterſigned by the auditor-general for the time being.

RESOLVED, *February* 22, 1777.

That all certificates iſſuing after the firſt emiſſion, be ſigned by Michael Hillegas, Eſq; treaſurer, or Samuel Hillegas, and counterſigned agreeable to the reſolutions of Congreſs, of the 3d of October, 1776, and 15th of January, 1777.

RESOLVED, *February* 26, 1777.

That an intereſt of SIX PER CENT. per annum, be allowed on all ſums of money already borrowed, and directed to be borrowed, on loan-office certificates, although ſuch certificates mention only an intereſt of four per centum per annum.

Extract from the minutes,
(Signed) CHARLES THOMSON, ſecretary.

Baltimore, March 3, 1777.

The Continental Treaſurer, in obedience to the above reſolutions, begs leave to acquaint the public, that he is ready to receive on loan, in behalf of the United States, any ſums of money, not leſs than two hundred dollars, that may be brought him, at his office, in Market-ſtreet.

All Printers of news-papers in the United States, are requeſted to inſert the above reſolutions and advertiſement in their papers for one month.

M. HILLEGAS, *Con. Treaſurer.*

In CONGRESS, *February* 25, 1777.

TO the end that the moſt ſpeedy ſtop may be put to the pernicious and unſoldierly practice of deſerting, and that ſuch offenders who receive the public money for ſervices that they deſign not to perform, may be certainly and ſpeedily carried back to the corps they have deſerted from, it is earneſtly recommended to the committees of obſervation or inſpection in theſe United States, that they cauſe diligent enquiry to be made in their reſpective counties or diſtricts, for all deſerters that may be lurking and harboured therein, and cauſe ſuch, whenever found, to be immediately ſecured and conveyed to the neareſt continental officer, and all ſuch officers are hereby directed to receive and ſecure ſuch deſerters, that they may be ſafely delivered to their reſpective regiments, and brought to a ſpeedy trial and exemplary puniſhment; and farther to pay to the perſons delivering ſuch deſerters, eight dollars for each deſerter ſo brought and delivered, and twelve nineteenths of a dollar, in lieu of expences, for every mile from the place where the deſerter was taken up, to the place where he is delivered to the officer.

ARTICLES OF WAR. SECTION VI.

Art. 1. All officers and ſoldiers, who having received pay, or having been duly inliſted in the ſervice of the United States, ſhall be convicted of having deſerted the ſame, ſhall ſuffer death, or ſuch other puniſhment as by a court-martial ſhall be inflicted.

Art. 2. Any non-commiſſioned officer or ſoldier, who ſhall, without leave from his commanding officer, abſent himſelf from his troop or company, or from any detachment with which he ſhall be commanded, ſhall, upon being convicted thereof, be puniſhed according to the nature of his offence, at the diſcretion of a court-martial.

Art. 3. No non-commiſſioned officer or ſoldier ſhall inliſt himſelf in any other regiment, troop, or company, without a regular diſcharge from the regiment, troop or company, in which he laſt ſerved, on the penalty of being reputed a deſerter, and ſuffering accordingly. And in caſe any officer ſhall knowingly receive and entertain ſuch non-commiſſioned officer or ſoldier, or ſhall not, after his being diſcovered to be a deſerter, immediately confine him, and give notice thereof to the [illegible] which he laſt ſerved, he, the ſaid officer ſo offending, ſhall by a court-martial be caſhiered.

Ordered, That the foregoing reſolve, and the three articles of war, be publiſhed in the ſeveral news-papers for ſix months, and the ſeveral printers are hereby requeſted to publiſh them accordingly.

JOHN HANCOCK, *Preſident.*

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK GREEN.